

### REMARKS

Claims 1-27, as amended, appear in this application for the Examiner's review and consideration. Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to further define the invention by reciting that the movable portion or portions of the timepiece moves or move from an initial position that is substantially flush with the display to a time-indicating position that is either raised above or depressed below the display area to form at least one displayed character that has a tactilely sensible shape that is independent of a system of dots. This change is supported by the specification on the second full paragraph on page 5. Also, claims 7, 8, 12, and 16 were amended to correct informalities. As no new matter has been introduced by these changes, they all should be entered at this time.

Claims 7, 8, 12 and 16 were objected to due to certain informalities that were noted in the action. In response, these claims have been amended to correct these inadvertent errors. In particular, the Examiner's observations for the changes to claims 8, 12 and 16 have been adopted, while claim 7 have been amended to recite "pie slice-shaped" to indicate that the shape of the segments is triangular with a curved edge. Accordingly, it is believed that these objections have been overcome and should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-27 have been rejected as being anticipated by Walser US patent 2,177,234. The Examiner's reasoning in support of the rejection appears on pages 2-9 of the action. From this explanation, it is clear that the presently claimed "movable portion or portions" of the present invention are being interpreted as rotating hands of the watch of Walser.

Accordingly, applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 11 to recited that the movable portion or portions of the timepiece moves or move from an initial position that is substantially flush with the display to a time-indicating position that is either raised above or depressed below the display area to form at least one displayed character that has a tactilely sensible shape that is independent of a system of dots. Walser's rotating hands do not satisfy this recitation and are not moveable as claimed to form at least one displayed character, so that the claims cannot be anticipated.

Furthermore, by forming a character made of one or more of these movable portions, the user can easily determine the time in a compact space, namely that of the display area. In contrast, to read the time in Walser's device, the user has to feel the position of each of the rotating hands and also ascertain where the hands are pointing. As these hands are

continuously moving, the user's feel of them can interfere with such movement and damage it. As the movable portion(s) of the present timepiece only move each minute, they are often stationery when being sensed to determine the time, and their movement is upwards or downwards with respect to the display area when changing so that sensing of the character does not interference with or hinder such movement. This structure thus provides unexpected benefits compared to that of Walser, so that no obviousness rejection is applicable.

Finally, the courtesies extended to the inventor and his attorney during a telephone interview with Examiners Sean Kayes and David Gray on April 6, 2006 are noted with appreciation. The Examiners did review a draft of this amendment prior to the interview and after a short discussion agreed that the present claims define subject matter that is distinguishable from the cited Walser patent.

In view of the above, as all rejections have been overcome, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, early notice of which would be appreciated. Should any issues remain, a personal or telephonic interview is respectfully requested to discuss the same in order to expedite the allowance of all the claims in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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